Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 IO-13 /079 W

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R 251004Z AUG 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5476
SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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CORRECTEDCOPY TEXT ENTIRE ORIGINAL MESSAGE INCOMPLETE.

3.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES

SUBJECT: NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES: ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGE-

MENTS

REFS: (A) USNATO 7875, DTG 180758Z AUG 77. (B) PO/77/113

SUMMARY. A JOINT MEETING OF THE CBC/MBC (CIVIL BUDGET COMMITTEE/MILITARY BUDGET COMMITTEE) ON 24 AUGUST ARRIVED AT AN INTERIM DECISION TO ALLOW THE SYG/IMS (INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF) TO HIRE THREE CONSULTANTS PENDING EVENTUAL APPROVAL OF DETAILED BUDGETARY DOCUMENTS. FRENCH POSITION REMAINED ADAMANT AGAINST EVENTUAL CHARGE TO THE CIVIL BUDGET, BUT, ON THE BASIS OF NEW INFORMATION, FRENCH REP AGREED TO SEEK MODIFICATION OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS. WE EXPECT CONTRACTS FOR THE CONSULTANTS TO BE READY FOR SIGNATURE BY 1 SEP 77. ACTION REQUESTED: CONFIRMATION THAT THE US CONSULTANT (MR. KRUSE) WOULD BE AVAILABLE BY THAT TIME. END SUMMARY.

1. A JOINT MEETING OF THE CBC/MBC WAS HELD ON 24 AUG 77 CONFIDENTIAL

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AS NOTIFIED REF A. AGENDA WAS LIMITED TO PROVISION OF FUNDS FOR CONSULTANTS' SERVICES AS REQUESTED REF B.

2. CHAIRMAN BATUK OPENED THE MEETING WITH A STATEMENT THAT THE SYG'S REQUEST IN REF B HAD BEEN ACCEPTED, IN SOME CASES WITH A CERTAIN RELUCTANCE, BY ALL NATIONS EXCEPT FRANCE. A LETTER FROM AMBASSADOR TINE HAD INDICA-

TED THAT FRANCE, NOT HAVING PARTICIPATED IN A DECISION CONCERNING NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES, COULD NOT AGREE TO CHARGE ANY RESULTING EXPENSES TO A BUDGET TO WHICH FRANCE CONTRIBUTED. HE THEN ASKED THE FRENCH REP (TAXIL) TO CLARIFY FRENCH POSITION. FRENCH REP STATED THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS HAD NOT CHANGED SINCE THE TIME OF TINE'S LETTER AND THAT HE CONTINUED TO BE GUIDED BY THE TERMS EXPRESSED THEREIN. IN EFFECT, FRANCE COULD NOT CONTRIBUTE TO EXPENDITURES FOR ACTIONS IN WHICH SHE WAS NOT INVOLVED.

- 3. US REP (LOVELAND) REQUESTED FURTHER CLARIFICATION ON THE APPARENT CONTRADICTION BETWEEN FRANCE'S POSITION SINCE 1967 TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF EXPENDITURES, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER THEY WERE DEFENSE RELATED. AND THE NEW DENIAL OF PARTICIPATION IN FUNDING FOR THREE CONSULTANTS TO AID THE NATO INTERNATION-AL STAFF (NIS) PERSONNEL IN THEIR CURRENT TASKS. HE FURTHER NOTED THAT THE CONSULTANTS WOULD BE WORKING IN AREAS SUCH AS INTEROPERABILITY AND LOGISTICS, IN WHICH FRANCE WAS INVOLVED AND ABOUT WHICH FRANCE HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CONTACTS WITH THE RELEVANT TASK FORCES FINALLY HE NOTED THAT THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL BUDGET EXPENDITURES AMOUNTED TO SOME BF 2 MILLION FOR 1977, A RELATIVELY SMALL PROPORTION OF THE TOTAL CIVIL BUDGET AMOUNTING TO BF 2 BILLION FOR THE SAME PERIOD. 4. FRENCH REP STATED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES RECOGNIZED CONFIDENTIAL.
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THAT FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PRESENT REQUEST WERE RELATIVELY UNIMPORTANT. THEY WERE VERY INTERESTED, HOWEVER, IN PROTECTING THE PRINCIPLE THAT THEY WOULD NOT PAY FOR EXPENDITURES WHICH THEY HAD NOT SHARED IN MANDATING. IN ADDITION, HE HAD BEEN UNAWARE OF FRANCE'S INTERESTS IN PARTICIPATION IN SOME OF THE DEFENSE INITIATIVES AND IN ANY CASE, ASSUMED THAT NO METHOD OF FRENCH INVOLVEMENT HAD YET BEEN WORKED OUT IN ORDER TO PERMIT FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN EXPENDITURES. HE DID AGREE, HOWEVER, TO GO BACK TO HIS AUTHORITIES WITH THE NEW INFORMATION IN AN ATTEMPT TO MODIFY THEIR POSITION.

5. THE BELGIAN REP (VAN DEN BRANDEN) REMINDED THE COMMITTEES OF THE CONTENT OF THE LETTER FROM HIS AMBASSADOR IN WHICH DEFINITE LIMITS WERE PLACED ON THE AUTHORITY TO BE GIVEN THE SYG PRIOR TO AGREEMENT ON DETAILED BUDGET DOCUMENTS BY THE RELEVANT COMMITTEES. HE FELT THAT THE NIS HAD DONE A POOR JOB OF PREPARING THE COMMITTEES FOR THE DECISIONS BEING ASKED OF THEM, SINCE EVEN AT THE PRESENT MEETING SUCH BUDGET DOCUMENTS WERE NOT AVAILABLE. CANADIAN REP (ALARIE) ENDORSED THE BELGIAN POSITION BUT STATED THAT THE COMMITTEES' JOB WAS TO FIND

A WAY TO IMPLEMENT THE DECISIONS BY MINISTERS WHICH REQUIRED THE EXTRA EXPENDITURES. THE UK REP (ASH) CONCURRED.

6. US REP NOTED THAT A LETTER FROM THE US MISSION HAD CONFIRMED US DEDICATION TO SOUND BUDGETARY PROCEDURES AND SAID HE HOPED THE NIS COULD PROVIDE DOCUMENTS ON WHICH THE COMMITTEES COULD COME TO A CONSIDERED DECISION. IN THE MEANTIME, HOWEVER, THE COMMITTEES' JOB WAS TO ADVANCE THE WORK AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND, IF THE FRENCH POSITION COULD BE SO READ, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT AN INTERIM DECISION COULD BE TAKEN TO ALLOW THE SYG THE AUTHORITY HE HAD REQUESTED IN REF B. AS COULD BE INFERRED FROM THE BELGIAN/CANADIAN/US LETTERS IN RESPONSE TO REF CONFIDENTIAL

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R 251004Z AUG 77 FM USMISSION NATO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5477 SECDEF WASHDC AMEMBASSY PARIS

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C O R R E C T E D CO P Y TEXT ENTIRE ORIGINAL MESSAGE INCOMPLETE.

B. THE SYG WOULD BE ENGAGING ONLY FUNDS WHICH WERE ALREADY APPROVED AND, SHOULD THE COMMITTEES EVENTUALLY NOT REACH AN AGREEMENT ON THE EXTRA FUNDS, HE WOULD HAVE TO COVER THOSE OBLIGATIONS BY REDUCING OTHER APPROVED EXPENDITURES. SUCH A DECISION SHOULD NOT PRESENT DIFFI-

CULTIES TO FRANCE OR ANY OTHER NATION SINCE IT COMMITTED THEM TO NOTHING PENDING AN EVENTUAL DECISION IN THE CBC AND MBC CONCERNING AMOUNTS AND IMPUTATIONS OF ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

7. NATO FINANCIAL CONTROLLER (CEULEMANS) STATED, WITH-OUT CONTRADICTION, THAT, IN THE CURRENT STATE OF NATIONAL POSITIONS, THE US SUGGESTION WAS THE BEST THAT COULD BE HOPED FORAND WOULD ALLOW THE ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANTS BY 1 SEP 77. HE ALSO CONFIRMED THAT THE BELGIAN LIMITATION OF THE INTERIM AUTHORITY TO BF 2.1 MILLION WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE A MAJOR OBSTACLE. HE WOULD PRESENT DETAILED BUDGETARY DOCUMENTS TO THE COMMITTEES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ALLOW THEM TO COMPLETE THEIR WORK ON THE FINAL AMOUNTS AND IMPUTATIONS. HE AND NATO PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT REP (VILLALOBOS) CONFIRMED THAT THE US CONFIDENTIAL

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REQUEST TO ALLOW THE IMS TO SIGN THE CONTRACT WITH THE CONSULTANTS COULD BE ACCEDED TO IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE FLEXIBILITY NEEDED SHOULD AN EVENTUAL DECISION IMPUTE THEIR SALARIES TO THE MILITARY BUDGET.

- 8. ON THE BASIS OF THE ABOVE, THE COMMITTEES AUTHORIZED THE NATO ADMINISTRATION TO SIGN CONTRACTS WITH THE THREE CONSULTANTS ON THE BASIS OF HIS REQUEST IN PO/77/113, WITH A LIMIT OF BF 2.1 MILLION TO ANY INTERIM NATO COMMITMENT. THIS IMPLIES NO NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO AUGMENT CURRENT BUDGETS NOR TO EVENTUAL IMPUTATION BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND CIVIL BUDGETS.
- 9. THE GREEK REP (ANGELOPOULOS), PLEADING IGNORANCE OF THE SUBJECT BECAUSE HE HAD JUST ARRIVED IN NATO, SUGGESTED THAT THE DECISION WOULD BE SUBJECT TO GREEK RESERVATION WHICH HE HOPED TO LIFT WITHIN ONE WEEK. THE US AND CANADIAN REPS BOTH NOTED THAT GREECE HAD ACCEPTED REF B BY THE SILENCE PROCEDURE AND THAT, SINCE THE PRESENT DECISION DID NOT DEVIATE FROM THE AUTHORITY REQUESTED IN REF B, GREEK ACCEPTANCE COULD BE ASSUMED. THE CHAIRMAN CONFIRMED THIS FACT AND THE GREEK REP CONCURRED.
- 10. AFTER THE MEETING CEULEMANS INFORMED US THAT, ON THE BASIS OF THE PRESENT DECISION, HE WOULD FUND THE CONTRACT FOR THE CONSULTANTS AND THAT ALL ACTIONS WOULD BE TAKEN TOWARD THEIR AVAILABILITY BY 1 SEP 77.
- 11. FOLLOWING THE CBC/MBC MEETING, DCM (GLITMAN) MET WITH ACTING SYG PANSA TO DISCUSS RESULTS AND NEXT MOVES. PANSA RECOGNIZED THAT COMMITTEE ACTION HAD PROVIDED INITIAL IMPETUS BUT THAT THE PROBLEMS OF FINANCIAL AUTHORIZATION AND IMPUTATION WOULD STILL HAVE TO BE

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WORKED OUT LATER BEFORE THE INTERIM FUNDS WERE DEPLETED. WHILE HE RECOGNIZED THAT CONTACT SHOULD BE TAKEN WITH FRENCH AT A HIGH LEVEL, HE WAS UNSURE AS TO THE NEED FOR AN URGENT APPROACH. WE BELIEVE THAT PANSA OR LUNS SHOULD ADDRESS THESE SUBJECTS (THE FUNDING MATTER AS WELL AS THE FRENCH INVOLVEMENT IN THE NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES) WITH TINE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE SINCE THE BUDGET COMMITTEES COULD BE READY FOR FINAL DISCUSSIONS WITHIN A WEEK OR TWO. THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO AUTHORIZE EMBASSY PARIS TO FEEL OUT THE FRENCH ATTITUDE ON A LOW KEY -- PERHAPS IN CONNECTION WITH MG BOWMAN'S LETTER TO GEN MARTRE (STATE 199936). DEPENDING ON THE OUTCOME WE COULD THEN USE THE RESULTS OF SUCH A CONTACT TO HELP MOTIVATE PANSA OR LUNS TO MAKE A MORE OFFICIAL APPROACH. BENNETT

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